

Case 3287

LABIIDAE Burr, 1909 (Insecta, Dermaptera): proposed precedence over ISOLABELLINAE Verhoeff, 1902

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Article 23.9.3 of the Code, is to conserve the usage of the family-group name LABIIDAE Burr, 1909 for a widely encountered group of cosmopolitan earwigs. The senior subfamilial name ISOLABELLINAE Verhoeff, 1902 (type genus *Isolabella* Verhoeff, 1902) has not been used since its establishment over 100 years ago, while the junior name LABIIDAE (type genus *Labia* Leach, 1815) has become universally accepted, often at subfamily rank (LABIINAE). It is proposed that the name LABIIDAE be given precedence over ISOLABELLINAE whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Dermaptera; LABIIDAE; ISOLABELLINAE; *Isolabella*; *Labia*; earwigs.

1. Leach (1815, p. 118) established the generic name *Labia* for a group of common earwigs. The type species of *Labia* is *Forficula minor* Linnaeus, 1758 (p. 423) by monotypy. *Labia* and its type species have been placed on the Official Lists (Opinion 149).

2. Verhoeff (1902, p. 15) established the generic name *Isolabella*, placing it in a new subfamily ISOLABELLINAE (p. 15) of the family CHELIDURIDAE. The type species of *Isolabella* is *I. graeca* Verhoeff, 1902 (p. 16) by monotypy.

3. Burr (1909, p. 323), in a brief review of earwig classification, established the familial name LABIIDAE to accommodate *Labia* and several genera allied to it.

4. Steinmann (1989, p. 513) placed *Isolabella* in the subfamily LABIINAE (family LABIIDAE) along with *Labia* and its relatives.

5. The name ISOLABELLINAE has not been used since its original proposal in 1902 while the junior name LABIIDAE (OR LABIINAE) has become universally used as the name for *Labia* and its relatives. The family-group name based on *Labia* has been used either at familial or subfamilial rank in an extensive systematic and biological literature for more than the last 80 years; the Commission Secretariat holds 16 representative references published by 20 authors between 1990 and 2001 (e.g. Albouy & Caussanel, 1990; Briceño & Eberhard, 1995; Popham, 2000; Fedor & Majzlan, 2001).

6. To use the name ISOLABELLINAE in place of its junior synonym LABIIDAE (OR LABIINAE) would bring about a change in name for one of the most commonly encountered and widely cited groups of earwigs. I therefore propose that family-group names based on *Labia* be given precedence over those based on *Isolabella*. The family-group name based on *Isolabella* would remain available for any entomologist who may in the future consider the two genera to belong to different family-group taxa.

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:
- (1) to use its plenary power to rule that the family-group name LABIIDAE Burr, 1909 and other family-group names based on *Labia* Leach, 1815 are to be given precedence over ISOLABELLINAE Verhoeff, 1902 and other family-group names based on *Isolabella* Verhoeff, 1902 whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon;
 - (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Isolabella* Verhoeff, 1902 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Isolabella graeca* Verhoeff, 1902;
 - (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *graeca* Verhoeff, 1902, as published in the binomen *Isolabella graeca* (specific name of the type species of *Isolabella* Verhoeff, 1902);
 - (4) to place on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) LABIIDAE Burr, 1909 (type genus *Labia* Leach, 1815), with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Labia* are to be given precedence over ISOLABELLINAE Verhoeff, 1902 and other family-group names based on *Isolabella* Verhoeff, 1902 whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon;
 - (b) ISOLABELLINAE Verhoeff, 1902 (type genus *Isolabella* Verhoeff, 1902), with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Isolabella* are not to be given priority over LABIIDAE Burr, 1909 and other family-group names based on *Labia* Leach, 1815 whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon.

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